Dental Health and Safety Briefing

Health & Safety Program

Purpose

To Protect ourselves

and

our patients

people are more important than things . . .

Health and Safety

- Everyone is responsible!
  - Unit Safety Representative
  - Supervisors
  - Individuals

Unit Safety Representative

- Primary contact between Base Safety & Unit
- Responsible for Unit Safety Program
- Complies with all mishap notification requirements
- Performs unit annual safety self-inspection
- Attends all required safety training/meetings

Unit Safety Representative

- Manages unit's Hazard Abatement Program
- Ensures safety bulletin board informational postings comply with AF Instructions
- Maintains current list of motorcycle operators, including level of training
- Keeps commander apprised of overall safety program

Supervisors

- Facilitate Job Safety, Fire Prevention, and Health Training to each supervisee
- Maintain personnel records documenting initial and recurring job safety training
  - AF Form 55

AF Form 55
Employee Safety and Health Record

- Every Person should have on file within local workplace by supervisor
- Identifies
  - Hazards associated with present duties
  - Personal protection items provided/issued
  - Safety and Health information/procedures
  - Documents training

Supervisors

- Know potential hazards in areas of responsibility
- Analyze all job tasks for inherent hazards

Supervisors

- Know and ENFORCE safety standards
- Ensure proper personnel protective equipment (PPE) is maintained and USED
- Promptly report all mishaps/ incidents to unit safety representative
- Promptly correct hazards
  - Enter uncorrectable problems into Hazard Abatement Program

Supervisors

- Post AFVA 91-301
  - AF Occupational Safety and Health Program Visual Aid
- AFOSH standard 161-21
  - Hazardous materials training to include specific materials in work areas

Individuals

- Comply with standards, regulations, job guides, technical orders and operating procedures
  - Ignorance is no excuse
- Identify and report hazards
- Use and maintain PPE

Individuals

- Report ANY on-the-job injury or impaired health
- Report actual/suspected hazardous chemical exposure
- Give due consideration to both personal and co-worker safety

Remember . . .

It is everyone's duty to recognize

and report identified or potential

hazards (both on & off duty)

Use your chain of command!

Job Safety Analysis

- Documents potentially serious hazards inherent to job or task
- Identifies health & safety management system weaknesses
- Systematically evaluates task or job
- Provides supervisors tool for systematic study of job hazards for training

Job Safety Analysis

- Provides information for budget justifications
- Can become part of safety OI
- Allows employee input concerning job safety

Job Safety Analysis

- **Obvious Benefits**
  - **Provides safe & health work environment**
  - **Eliminates/reduces job death, illness, or injury**
  - **Reduces cost of operations**

Mishap Classification

- Class A
  - $1 million or more property damage, or
  - Fatality, or permanent total disability, or
  - Destruction of, or nonrepair to US aircraft
- Class B
  - Damage between $200,000 - 1 million, or
  - Permanent partial disability, or
  - Inpatient hospitalization of 5 or more personnel

Mishap Classification

- Class C
  - Damage between $10,000 - $200,000
  - Injury or occupational illness resulting in lost workday involving 8 or more hours
- Class D (Civilian Only)
  - Nonfatal mishap, not including first aid, that does not meet definition of Class C mishap

Safety Hazard

Any unsafe or unhealthy condition that may cause a mishap.

Most mishaps are caused by fatigue, ignorance, haste, defective equipment, carelessness, clutter, inadequate space, inadequate lighting, improper storage, stupidity, or inattentiveness

Applicable Instructions

- AFI 91-202; The US Air Force Mishap Prevention Program
- AFI 91-204; Investigating and Reporting US Air Force Mishaps
- AFI 91-207; US Air Force Traffic Safety Program
- AFI 91-303; Air Force Occupational Safety, Fire Prevention, & Health Program

Applicable Instructions

- Local Med Group & Clinic DOI's
  - Health & Safety
  - Infection Control
  - Radiology
  - Clinical Performance and Improvement

Dental Clinic Electrical Safety

- Insure floors are kept dry and clean
- Insure electrical equipment is in good repair
  - Report shocks - don't try to fix it yourself!
  - Check cords for worn insulation or defective plugs
  - Remove plugs from outlets properly
- If you think equipment is faulty DO NOT USE report to supervisor

Dental Clinic Electrical Safety

- Do not use multiple outlet adapters
- Extension cords are illegal
  - If one is needed, must be hospital grade and coordinated through unit safety & MERC
- All personal electrical equipment must have safety inspection before use
  - Radios, stereos, coffee pots, etc.
- Ask for help with any equipment if unsure

Dental Clinic Eye Protection

- Eye protection mandatory for staff & patients
  - Operatory procedures
  - Laboratory procedures
    - Grinding and handpiece procedures
    - Dark glasses & goggles during casting
  - Dental Instrument Processing Center
- Eyewash areas identified to all personnel & tested weekly

Dental Clinic Hearing Safety

. . . say what?

- Hearing protection mandatory ≥ 84 decibels - **hearing damage is cumulative!**
- BEE can provide noise level surveys
- Be aware of “Hearing Protection Required” labels (AF Form 2081)
  - **Use hearing protection when using identified equipment**
- Beware of compressed air noise

Dental Chemical Safety

- Don’t take any dental chemicals or materials for granted
  - Keep exterior of containers clean
  - No direct contact with skin
  - Latex gloves provide minimal protection
- EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW LOCATION AND USE OF Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)!!

Dental Instrument Processing

- Use eye protection, aprons, rubber utility gloves when handling contaminated instruments
- Do not open sterilizers until pressure drops to zero, allow steam to dissipate after opening
- Use care when handling hot instruments/packs

Dental Sharps

- Visible sharps container in every DTR & DIPC
  - Wall mount preferable
  - Must be above level accessible to children
  - Replace when 3/4 full
- Know and use local needle recapping guidelines

Dental Sharps

- Use care with loading, passing, breaking down, and cleaning sharp instruments

  To include:
  - Scalpels, needles
  - Endo files
  - Burs
  - Instruments
- Take broken instruments (after sterilizing) to supply

Reporting Needle Sticks

Clinic Acquired Penetrating Contact (CAPC)

Needlestick, cut, or mucous membrane (eyes, mouth, or nasal) splash resulting in exposure of a health care worker to blood or body fluids from a patient

CAPC Procedures (Health Care Worker)

- Immediately report to supervisor
  - Use chain of command up to Superintendent
- Infection control officer in the loop
- Report to Acute Care Service for wound treatment
- Complete AF Form 765, Hospital Incident Report Immediately
  - Required by close of business

CAPC Procedures (Health Care Worker)

- Military Public Health determines need for baseline lab tests
  - Patient encouraged but not required to participate
- Accomplish documentation and follow up as requested by Military Public Health

CAPC Procedures

(Supervisor & Chain of Command)

- Insure personnel report to Acute Care Services for proper treatment
- Insure AF Form 765, Hospital Incident Report is completed and properly submitted
- Identify & take corrective action on problem that caused the CAPC
  - Document
  - Track the problem

Fire/Flammables

- Common sense is most important fire preventive measure
- Never leave burning bunsen burners or portable torches unattended
- Flammables kept in manufacturer's original container or approved & properly labeled safety container

Fire/Flammables

- Store flammables only in approved safety cabinet
  - Items should not be stored in DTR
- Any government health facility is a no-smoking area - - enforce standards to workers and patients alike

Fire Safety

- **Know local fire reporting procedures**

  What would you do if you discover a fire?

- **Know location of**
  - **Alarm boxes**
  - **Fire extinguishers**
  - **Emergency exits**

Fire Safety

- Report
  - Shout for help, notify co-workers
  - Activate alarm system
  - Intercom announcement
  - Call local fire department
    - Name, building number, location of fire
    - Do not hang up until instructed to do so

Fire Safety

- **Evacuate**
  - **Calmly remove/rescue any patients, co-workers**
  - **Close all doors**
  - **Turn off all electrical equipment**
  - **Turn off main oxygen supply**
  - **Assemble at designated location**
  - **Account for all personnel**

Fire Safety

- **Contain**
  - **Contain or control the fire only if you feel it is safe to do so**
  - **Use approved extinguisher**
  - **Keep escape route to your back**
  - **When in doubt, leave the fire fighting to the professionals**
  - ***Becoming a crispy critter does not reflect great credit upon oneself or the US Air Force . . .***

General Clinic Safety

- Be aware of general hazards
  - Sharp corners from drawers & cabinets
  - Store heavy things on low shelves
  - Use proper lifting techniques
  - ASK FOR HELP *(don't be too proud)*
  - Cords or hoses on the floor
  - Spilled liquids
  - Loose clothing around machinery

General Clinic Safety

- No eating, drinking or food storage in DTRs or lab
  - Use designated lounge areas
  - Food storage only in designated refrigerators

General Clinic Safety

- Mercury Hygiene
  - Risk is low but still exists, effect cumulative
  - Keep amalgamator lid closed during mixing
  - Avoid direct skin contact
  - Store amalgam scrap in airtight container

General Clinic Safety

- Mercury Hygiene
  - Never heat amalgam
    - Turn clogged/obstructed carriers in to supply
- If you find mercury
  - Contact supervisor
  - Use spill kit or contact Bioenvironmental Engineer (BEE)

General Clinic Safety

- Contagious Diseases
  - Standard-Universal Precautions for every patient
  - Review AF Form 696 carefully
- If you are sick - - *GO TO SICK CALL!*
  - Have consideration for your coworkers & patients

General Clinic Safety

- Ionizing Radiation
  - Radiation safety briefing provides in- depth information
  - Use shielding, lead aprons, good technique, avoid holding film with hand, good machine maintenance/calibration

General Clinic Safety

- **Nitrous Oxide**
  - **Pregnant (or attempting to become) technicians should not assist if N_2O being used**
  - **Ensure proper room ventilation and scavenger system**

long term effects may not be something to laugh about . . .

- **For questions about this briefing, contact**
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